

THE FASHION FOR PRINCESS GOWNS

Cloth and velvet silk and lace combined in odd and artistic effects

SO much has been written and said about the princess gown that it would seem as though there were nothing very original to be said for or against the fashion, and yet the new spring models that for the moment are absorbing the attention of the feminine world certainly deserve some notice. The fashion is evidently too well established to be either helped or injured by criticism; apparently the dressmakers have been clever enough to realize that fact and are accordingly devoting all their energies to making the very best of it, and are turning out every day new examples of the style.

There does not seem to be any more question as to whether the fashion is or is not becoming. It is the fashion, and therefore must be worn, and it is the fault of the dressmaker if the wearer of the gown does not look well turned out. Credit must be given to the artists who succeed in making a princess gown look well on a woman who has not been blessed by nature with good lines, for the most trifling defect of figure will be displayed—indeed, almost called attention to—by the severe lines and the close fitting effect.

For the spring it is, however, the leading style, and many and various are the means adopted to combat a bad figure, too much or too little flesh, and to give to every woman a tall, slender appearance. The trimmings help greatly, and time and patience expended upon securing it work wonders. At all events, the task must be attempted, for every description of material is made up into princess gowns this year.

Light weight cloth and soft liberty satin are the easiest materials with which to work, for they cling closely to the figure and also drape well, and it is quite a favorite fashion to drape folds of the material across the bust, leaving the rest of the gown in the plain, severe lines. All light colors are popular, and there are more plain white princess gowns than last season. Bands of trimming go down the front and are used on the waist, in jacket effect, the trimming being lace, Persian embroidery cut work or in some cases merely a band of the material with a row of small buttons in velvet, gold or steel, on either side.

SEVERE LINES IN SIMPLE STYLES.

Extremely hard and severe are the lines of the more extreme styles, and they really require to be worn by faultless figure to look well. One style fastens in the back and is without trimming from the bust to the hem of the skirt, where there is an inch band of embroidery. Above the bust is either a draped effect of the folds of the material or a gimp of lingerie, net or lace. With this is worn the short, elaborately finished jacket that is one of the most popular models for the spring season, and which fortunately softens the too severe princess gown and makes it more generally becoming.

In veiling and all thin materials it is finding easier to obtain softer lines, for the lines of tucks between the seams do not add an inch in diameter to the waist measure and yet give the less hard effect. All wash materials, batiste, etc., as well as the voile and thin silks, are made up after this model, with the bands of lace entredeux so shaped as to curve in at the waist line and then broaden out toward the foot of the skirt. A cream lace is used or dyed to match the color of the gown. The color effect of such a gown is very charming, and the lining shows through the lace, so that if so desired and the gown be of white the lining can be of some faint color. A most striking but almost too extreme an appearance is given by a black gown with white lace entredeux, for the slender lines are so pronounced. The same model in all black, made up over white or blue, is charming also, and even more unusual. With this gown also is a short and elaborately fashioned jacket, so short as to be on the bolero order.

It is really quite interesting to see what dressmakers and tailors have evolved with the checked materials and princess styles. The material is so cut and disposed as to make the gown look as though of most elaborate design and execution, when the only trimming will be the white at neck and sleeves or the fancy buttons used as trimming down the front. Such models, however, are not rashly to be attempted, and in fact require the most proficient work if they are to turn out satisfactorily, but they are delightfully smart and will never become too popular simply because of the difficulty in carrying out the design.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

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To look well take care of your complexion. Do not allow unwholesome pimples, blackheads or freckles to blight your skin.

Derma-Royale

Will remove these skin magic. Cures Eczema and Tetter. Used with DERMA-ROYALE SOAP, a perfect skin is insured.

Derma-Royale Soap, \$1.00. Derma-Royale Soap, 25.

Portraits and testimonials sent on request.

THE DERMA-ROYALE CO., Cincinnati, O.

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or sent, prepaid, on receipt of price.

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Silk and Lace Costume

Mohairs, voiles and silks are all used for these gowns, and the designs and patterns are the same in all the fabrics this season. Mohair and voile are ideal materials for summer for hard wear; silk, too, should wear well, but it does not possess such enduring qualities as the two former materials. Mohair will undoubtedly be one of the most popular of all summer fabrics this year, for it would seem as though the manufacturers had turned out a great improvement on former years in the less wiry, harsh weaves, as well as in the greater variety of patterns. The checked effects in blues, browns and grays, all one color, not mixed with white, are the newest and smartest, while in black also there is quite a choice of patterns.

SILKS AND PONGEES.

In former days such materials were never thought suitable or even possible for the princess style of gown, which, it was thought, could only be carried out in fabrics of heavier and richer quality. Light weight silks are now included in the possible materials, and not to be forgotten are the pongees, which in many a new name are making a great bid for popularity. One objection to this style of gown for the summer time lies in the fact that often a gown made with waist and skirt all in one seems impossibly heavy and warm, but it is possible to make it up over thin lining of lawn or India silk and then have the unlined yoke and cuffs of lingerie or lace. The princess or corselet skirt admits of the wearing of blouse or gimp of lace or lingerie, and while the gown does not look complete without the short bolero jacket, and here comes in the chance for the display of real art in dressmaking.

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1,565.—MAY.—Wanted, the May family coat of arms, with full description of same. G. M. H.

1,566.—MELVILLE.—The Melville or Melvill coat of arms desired. A. M. H.

1,567.—BARNES—READ.—Ancestry wanted of Daniel Barnes, who married Aphie Read, November 16, 1812. Was he the son of John Barnes, of Middleton, Conn., who served in the Revolution? Ancestry also desired of Jonathan A. Read (probably born at Brookfield, Conn.), who had Aphie, Betsey, Lucinda, Ann, Hansen and Thelmy, Jonathan was twice married; which wife was the mother of these children? C. S. N.

1,568.—BREWSTER.—Wanted, ancestry of Zephra Brewster, who was married in 1782. Family lived in Maryland and Virginia prior to 1782. C. T.

1,569.—CHILDS.—Harmony Child, of Woodstock, Conn., married one Wright, of Stratford. She was born about 1785. Was she

making. While around the waist and hips there must not be a quarter of an inch too much material, below the hips and continuing on down the material must be used with what seems like prodigious extravagance, and the width and flare around the feet serve to make the waist and hips seem far smaller. In the thin materials, made up with tucks between the seams or lines of entredeux, the tucks only extend a short distance below the waist line, to avoid giving the appearance of the gown being too tight fitting.

Short sleeves, elbow length, continue to be the fad for all sorts of gowns, but the long lace or lingerie cuffs gown in favor every day. It is not becoming or attractive to have the long cuff or undersleeve made of the same material as the gown, as is seen in many of the new models, but the unlined deep cuff gives an entirely different effect, and it can be said most truthfully to be invariably becoming. The original idea of an elbow sleeve on an elaborate style of gown was undoubtedly charming, but the fashion has literally been "run into the ground," and there has been such an exhibition of red elbows and rough, red arms this winter as to make conservative minded women clamor for some change of fashion. Nothing more attractive, smart and becoming than the adjustable deep cuffs or undersleeves can well be imagined, and another opportunity is furnished by the fashion in the wearing of exquisite hand work in embroidery and lace. Put away in many a treasure chest

are heirlooms in the shape of the faintest of undersleeves of cobweb fineness. These now find a place in the spring fashions, and the princess gowns of fine materials afford the best of opportunities for their use. They may be the same shape, generally speaking, but are different from the deep cuffs of the heavier linen, with the

embroidery, which are so smart with the linen and chevrot gowns.

Princess gowns of sheer lawn and lingerie are most effective this season and are made in all colors as well as the black or white. Apparently simple little frocks, they are too expensive to be within the reach of the general public, but are worth

the money asked for them in most instances, for if well made they can be laundered or cleaned an indefinite number of times, and if worn over different colored linings look absolutely different. They are made of allover embroidery and lace entredeux combined with ruffles of lace or embroidery finishing them around the hem, the most useful are cut low in the neck.

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Dove grey cloth costume



Mauve cloth with embroidered velvet bands



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The Etiquette of Cards.

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